

SECRET EYES ONLY

20 February 1958

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

SUBJECT: Resume of OCB Luncheon Meeting, 19 February 1958

PRESENT: Mr. Allen, Mr. Dearborn, Mr. Dulles, Admiral Foster, Mr. Gray, Mr. Herter, Mr. Quarles, Mr. Scribner, Mr. Smith, Mr. Staats

1. Nuclear Aircraft

Continuing the discussions of recent weeks on the "Technological Checklist", the desirability of giving priority to a nuclear airplane was again explored. It was agreed that, particularly in light of the low performance in terms of speed and altitude which could be expected from such a machine, placing its development on a crash basis would not be justified from the point of view of psychological impact. It was felt that any decision along these lines would have to be made on military grounds, and consequently it was within the province of the Defense Department.

2. Testimony by Ex-Senator Benton

Mr. Allen referred to testimony by William B. Benton on February 17 before the Senate Foreign Relations Committee. In this testimony, Mr. Benton had presented a dramatic idea whereby the President might request from Khrushchev his permission to broadcast directly to the Russian people, probably on a reciprocal basis.

Mr. Allen then explained a dilemma in which he found himself in dealing with the problem of exchange negotiations with the Soviets. He said that in order to do full justice in his information programs to the American position, it would be necessary to refer to the personal conversations between Ambassadors Lacy and Zaroubin and others. On the other hand, there were obvious pitfalls in publicizing what could easily be described as privileged conversations. The

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conclusion of the group was that the USIA programs should provide as complete a record as possible of the available and open data on negotiations, but that personal conversations should not be alluded to.

3. Hijacked South Korean Airplane

Mr. Dulles gave the group a rundown of available information on the incident in which a South Korean airliner was diverted in flight to North Korea. He spoke particularly of the fact that two Americans were aboard.



ALLEN W. DULLES
Director

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